AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-21 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 22-41 are added. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

22. (New.) A secreted mature polypeptide which after maturation has protease activity, which polypeptide when expressed and before maturation comprises a heterologous pro-region, and which polypeptide:

(a) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 70% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 28; SEQ ID NO: 33; SEQ ID NO: 37; SEQ ID NO: 41; SEQ ID NO: 43; or SEQ ID NO: 45;

(b) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 70% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide in SEQ ID NO: 1; SEQ ID NO: 2; SEQ ID NO: 25; SEQ ID NO: 31; SEQ ID NO: 32; SEQ ID NO: 36; SEQ ID NO: 40; or SEQ ID NO: 44;

(c) comprises a mature part which is a variant of the mature part of the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28; SEQ ID NO: 33; SEQ ID NO: 37; SEQ ID NO: 41; SEQ ID NO: 43; or SEQ ID NO: 45, the segment comprising a substitution, deletion, extension, and/or insertion of one or more amino acids;

(d) is a fragment of (a), (b) or (c).

23. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 22, wherein the heterologous pro-region is derived from a protease.

24. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 22, wherein the heterologous pro-region is derived from an S2A or S1E protease.

25. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 22, wherein the heterologous pro-region is 70% identical to the pro-region shown in SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 53.

26. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 22 which comprises at least three non-polar or uncharged polar amino acids within the last four amino acids of the C-terminus of the polypeptide

27. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 22, wherein said polypeptide comprises one or more added amino acids, and where said one more added amino acids are non-polar or uncharged.

28. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 27, wherein the one or more added amino acid(s) are selected from the group consisting of Q, S, V, A, or P.

29. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 27, wherein the one or more added amino acids are selected from the group consisting of: QSHVQSAP, QSAP, QP, TL, TT, QL, TP, LP, TI, IQ, QP, PI, LT, TQ, IT, QQ, and PQ.

30. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 22 which when expressed and before maturation comprises a heterologous secretion signal-peptide which is cleaved from the polypeptide when the polypeptide is secreted.

31. (New.) The polypeptide according to claim 30, wherein the heterologous secretion signal peptide comprises an amino acid sequence having a sequence identity of at least 70% with the amino acid sequence encoded by polynucleotides 1 – 81 of SEQ ID NO: 2, or SEQ ID NO: 44.

32. (New.) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide as defined in claim 22.

33. (New.) A recombinant expression vector comprising a polynucleotide as defined in claim 32.

34. (New.) A recombinant host cell comprising a polynucleotide as defined in claim 32.

35. (New.) The recombinant host cell according to claim 34 which is a *Bacillus* cell.

36. (New.) A transgenic plant or plant part, comprising a polynucleotide as defined in claim 32.

37. (New.) A transgenic, non-human animal comprising a polynucleotide as defined in claim 32.

38. (New.) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising: (a) cultivating a recombinant host cell as defined in claim 34, to produce a supernatant comprising the polypeptide, and (b) recovering the polypeptide.

39. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 22, wherein the polypeptide:

(a) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 28; SEQ ID NO: 33; SEQ ID NO: 37; SEQ ID NO: 41; SEQ ID NO: 43; or SEQ ID NO: 45; or

(b) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide in SEQ ID NO: 1; SEQ ID NO: 2; SEQ ID NO: 25; SEQ ID NO: 31; SEQ ID NO: 32; SEQ ID NO: 36; SEQ ID NO: 40; or SEQ ID NO: 44.

40. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 22, wherein the polypeptide:

(a) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 28; SEQ ID NO: 33; SEQ ID NO: 37; SEQ ID NO: 41; SEQ ID NO: 43; or SEQ ID NO: 45; or

(b) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 9% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide in SEQ ID NO: 1; SEQ ID NO: 2; SEQ ID NO: 25; SEQ ID NO: 31; SEQ ID NO: 32; SEQ ID NO: 36; SEQ ID NO: 40; or SEQ ID NO: 44.

41. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 22, wherein the polypeptide:

(a) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 28; SEQ ID NO: 33; SEQ ID NO: 37; SEQ ID NO: 41; SEQ ID NO: 43; or SEQ ID NO: 45; or

(b) comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide in SEQ ID NO: 1; SEQ ID NO: 2; SEQ ID NO: 25; SEQ ID NO: 31; SEQ ID NO: 32; SEQ ID NO: 36; SEQ ID NO: 40; or SEQ ID NO: 44.